MIED ProSe 1 (Rev 5/16) Complaint for a Civil Case

# IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN

Case: 4:22-cv-10175

Judge: Davis, Stephanie Dawkins

MJ: Patti, Anthony P.

Filed: 01-27-2022 At 03:43 PM CMP TAWFIQ V. HINES (NA)

(Write the full name of each plaintiff who is filing this complaint. If the names of all the plaintiffs cannot fit in the space above, please write "see attached" in the space and attach an additional

Dr. Neri Tawfiq

page with the full list of names.)

Mr. James Hines

(Write the full name of each defendant who is being sued. If the names of all the defendants cannot fit in the space above, please write "see attached" in the space and attach an additional page with the full list of names.)

(to be filled in by the Clerk's Office)

Jury Trial:

☐ Yes

(check one)

Complaint for a Civil Case

#### MIED ProSe 1 (Rev 5/16) Complaint for a Civil Case

#### I. The Parties to This Complaint

### A. The Plaintiff(s)

Provide the information below for each plaintiff named in the complaint. Attach additional pages if needed.

Street Address
City and County
State and Zip Code
Telephone Number
E-mail Address

Dr. Nesi TawfiQ

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Sagraw

1.0.80X 3678 [

# B. The Defendant(s)

Provide the information below for each defendant named in the complaint, whether the defendant is an individual, a government agency, an organization, or a corporation. For an individual defendant, include the person's job or title (if known). Attach additional pages if needed.

Defendant No. 1 Mr. sames Hil Name Job or Title (if known) Aleda ELutzVA Street Address City and County State and Zip Code Telephone Number James. Hines@va.gov E-mail Address (if known) Defendant No. 2 Name Job or Title (if known) Street Address City and County

State and Zip Code Telephone Number

E-mail Address (if known)

	ProSe 1 (Rev 5/16) Complaint for a Civil Case	
	Defendant No. 3	
	Name	
	Job or Title	<del></del>
	(if known)	
	Street Address	
	City and County	
	State and Zip Code	
	Telephone Number	
	E-mail Address (if known)	
	Defendant No. 4	
	Name	
	Job or Title	
	(if known)	
	Street Address	
	City and County	
	State and Zip Code	
	Telephone Number	
	E-mail Address (if known)	
II.	Basis for Jurisdiction	
	cases can be heard in federal court: diversity of citizenship of the parties States Constitution or federal laws of \$1332, a case in which a citizen of amount at stake is more than \$75,00	jurisdiction (limited power). Generally, only two types of cases involving a federal question and cases involving s. Under 28 U.S.C. § 1331, a case arising under the United or treaties is a federal question case. Under 28 U.S.C. one State sues a citizen of another State or nation and the 0 is a diversity of citizenship case. In a diversity of ce a citizen of the same State as any plaintiff.
	What is the basis for federal court ju	risdiction? (check all that apply)
	Federal question	☐ Diversity of citizenship

Fill out the paragraphs in this section that apply to this case.

# A. If the Basis for Jurisdiction Is a Federal Question

List the specific federal statutes, federal treaties, and/or provisions of the United States Constitution that are at issue in this case.

Federal VA-Directive SOA/

В.	If the	<b>Basis</b>	for	Juris	diction	Is	Diversity	of	Citizensh	ıip

1.	The	The Plaintiff(s)						
	a.	If the plaintiff is an individual  The plaintiff, (name) is a citizen of the State of (name)						
	b.	If the plaintiff is a corporation The plaintiff, (name),						
		is incorporated under the laws of the State of (name), and has its principal place of business in the State of (name)						
	prov	nore than one plaintiff is named in the complaint, attach an additional page iding the same information for each additional plaintiff.)						
2.	The	Defendant(s)						
	a.	If the defendant is an individual  The defendant, (name), is a citizen of the  State of (name)  Or is a citizen of (foreign nation)						
	b.	If the defendant is a corporation  The defendant, (name), is incorporated under the laws of the State of (name), and						
		has its principal place of business in the State of (name)  Or is incorporated under the laws of						
		(foreign nation), and has its principal place of business in (name)						

(If more than one defendant is named in the complaint, attach an additional page providing the same information for each additional defendant.)

# 3. The Amount in Controversy

The amount in controversy—the amount the plaintiff claims the defendant owes or the amount at stake—is more than \$75,000, not counting interest and costs of court, because (explain): 3th Montal Pain / Montal Sufforms

875,600, 1st Fabruation of termination

22 persistent Hwassovent that

22 persistent Hwassovent that

23 and playdoon

# III. Statement of Claim

Write a short and plain statement of the claim. Do not make legal arguments. State as briefly as possible the facts showing that each plaintiff is entitled to the damages or other relief sought. State how each defendant was involved and what each defendant did that caused the plaintiff harm or violated the plaintiff's rights, including the dates and places of that involvement or conduct. If more than one claim is asserted, number each claim and write a short and plain statement of each claim in a separate paragraph. Attach additional pages if needed.

14 Fabricitation of termination/ Fabrication Of behavoral violent acts that I did not person, that resulted in VA-police Haraxament in dansing my life even as to aurest 01/27/22 2nd standony my name, that cost me a substanily amount of jobs, that I treep lossing, due to the Fact that the lategory | hed Flas is Nation unde on all of the VA in United states of Armerica. The flas was a complete fabrication to make me seem as a vident black man. 3rd Mental Pain & Mental suffering

#### IV. Relief

State briefly and precisely what damages or other relief the plaintiff asks the court to order. Do not make legal arguments. Include any basis for claiming that the wrongs alleged are continuing at the present time. Include the amounts of any actual damages claimed for the acts alleged and the basis for these amounts. Include any punitive or exemplary damages claimed, the amounts, and the reasons you claim you are entitled to actual or punitive money damages.

\$ 875,000

1st Mertal Pain/Mental Suffering.

1st Mertal Pain/Mental Suffering.

2st Fabrication leading to termination / certinettonekers

3st Pernstent Harassevent even to current 01/20/202

4th Deliveration of Violent behavioral acts

4th Deliveration of Violent behavioral acts

4th Lave Cost me to loss over 10

4nt have Cost me to loss over 10

# V. Certification and Closing

Under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 11, by signing below, I certify to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief that this complaint: (1) is not being presented for an improper purpose, such as to harass, cause unnecessary delay, or needlessly increase the cost of litigation; (2) is supported by existing law or by a nonfrivolous argument for extending, modifying, or reversing existing law; (3) the factual contentions have evidentiary support or, if specifically so identified, will likely have evidentiary support after a reasonable opportunity for further investigation or discovery; and (4) the complaint otherwise complies with the requirements of Rule 11.

# A. For Parties Without an Attorney

I agree to provide the Clerk's Office with any changes to my address where caserelated papers may be served. I understand that my failure to keep a current address on file with the Clerk's Office may result in the dismissal of my case.

Date of signing:	<u>/</u>
Signature of Plaintiff	0)0
Printed Name of Plaintiff	Tanka, Nei

# **Additional Information:**

# Please note that I am not sueing aleda 5. Lute Veteran affairs.

I am Sueing Mr. James Hines Directly!!!



Veterans Integrated Service Network 10 11500 Northlake Drive, Suite 200 Cincinnati, Ohio 45249

October 27, 2021

RE: FOIA Request 22-00602-F

Dr. Neri Tawfiq
Neri\_tawfiq\_a\_vahoo.com
Neri\_tawfiq\_a\_outlook.com

Dear Dr. Tawfig:

This letter is the initial agency decision on your 10/24/2021, request under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. § 552, submitted to the VHA 10N10 - VA Healthcare System Serving Indiana, Michigan, and Ohio FOIA Office for a copy of the following information:

- 1. Documents of requestor, as a patient at the Aleda E. Lutz Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Saginaw, MI from November 22, 2020-March 22, 2021.
- 2. Documents pertaining to the requestor's history of verbal aggression, use of profanity, yelling and demanding remarks from November 22, 2020–March 22, 2021.
- 3. Documents pertaining to the requestor's history of inappropriate threats from November 22, 2020-March 22, 2021

Line Item 1 of requestor displayed as a patient at the Aleda E. Lutz Veterans Affairs Medical Center (VAMC), Saginaw, MI from November 22, 2020-March 22, 2021, produced one document displaying a Community Care Consult entered for a non-VA visit.

After conducting a reasonable search, we have concluded that the Aleda E. Lutz VAMC, Saginaw, MI, does not have records responsive to your request for Line Items #2 and #3. Courts have determined the reasonableness of an agency's search can depend on whether the agency properly determined where responsive records were likely to be found and searched those locations. [See Iacoe v. IRS, No. 98-C-0466, 1999 WL 675322, at \*4 (E.D. Wis. July 23, 1999) (recognizing that agency "diligently searched for the records requested in those places where [agency] expected they could be located")].

Page 2

FOIA: 22-00602-F

Record search inquiries were made to the appropriate office(s). The Disruptive Behavior Coordinator and former Chief of Staff conducted a search for documents responsive to Line Items #2 & #3 your request for the date range of November 22, 2020-March 22, 2021. The Disruptive Behavior Coordinator stated that any records they had were given to the Saginaw VAMC FOIA Officer for the previous FOIA request number 21-09124-F. The VISN 10 FOIA Officer conducted a search of the previously disclosed records for FOIA request 21-09124-F by utilizing the search criteria for Line Items #2 & #3, as displayed below.

Line Item 2: Documents pertaining to the requestor's history of verbal aggression, use of profanity, yelling and demanding remarks were searched with the search criteria of the date range of November 22, 2020-March 22, 2021 and the text terms of "profanity," "yelling," and "demanding," This search concluded "no records" found.

Line Item 3: Documents pertaining to the requestor's history of inappropriate threats were searched with the search criteria of the date range of November 22, 2020–March 22, 2021 and the text terms of "inappropriate" and "threat." This search concluded "no records" found.

At the conclusion of the search, a "no records" response was provided for responsive records to your request Line Item 2 and Line Item 3.

Please be advised that you may appeal the "no records" response to:

Office of the General Counsel (024) Department of Veterans Affairs 810 Vermont Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20420 Email: ogcfoiaappeals@va.gov

If you should choose to file an appeal, your appeal must be postmarked or electronically transmitted no later than ninety (90) calendar days from the date of this letter. Please include a copy of this letter with your written appeal and clearly state why you disagree with the determinations set forth in this response.

You may also seek assistance and/or dispute resolution services for any other aspect of your FOIA request from VIIA's FOIA Public Liaison and/or Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) as provided below:

Page 3

FOIA: 22-00602-F

VHA FOIA Public Liaison:

Email Address: <a href="mailto:vhafoia2@va.gov">vhafoia2@va.gov</a> Phone Number: (877) 461-5038

Office of Government Information Services (OGIS)

Email: <u>ogis@nara.gov</u> Fax: (202) 741-5769

Mailing address:

Office of Government Information Services National Archives and Records Administration

8601 Adelphi Road

College Park, MD 20740-6001

Thank you for your interest in VA. If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact me at (734) 968-0125 or via email at VISN10VAFOIA@va.gov.

Sincerely.

Julie A. Lowery, MHA, RHIA

VISN 10 FOIA Officer VA Healthcare System Serving Indiana, Michigan, and Ohio FOIA Office

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22-00602-+F 1 of 3

Expanded Profile

Oct 25, 2021@09 10 19 Page: 1 of 5

Patient TAWFIQ NERI MANASSAH (4372)

Outpatient

Appointment # 1

Clinic: COM CARE-EMERGENCY DEPT

\*\*\* Appointment Demographics \*\*\*

Name TAWFIQ, NERI MANASSAH H Clinic: COM CARE-EMERGENCY DEPT

ID: 413-43-4372

Date/Time: JAN 19, 2021@09:30

Status NON-COUNT

Purpose of Vst - SCHEDULED

Length of Appt 30

Appt Type, REGULAR

Lab:

Elig of Appt: SERVICE CONNECTED 50% to

X ray

Overbook OVERBOOK

EKG:

Collateral Appt: NO

Other. HSRM, PID=JAN 26, 2021 PER CONSULT, PROVIDER COVENANT MEDICAL CENTER

Enrolled in this clinic NO

\*\*\* Appointment Event Log \*\*\*

Event

Date

User

Appt Made

JAN 20, 2021@14:29:57

Check In

Check Out

Check Out Entered

No Show/Cancel

Checked Out

Cancel Reason:

Cancel Remark

Rebooked Date:

22-00602-+F 2 of 3

\*\*\* Clinic Wait Time Information \*\*\*

Request type: Unknown

'Next Available' Type

CID/Preferred date: JAN 19, 2021

Follow-up visit: NO (computed)

Clinic Wait Time1: 0 days

Clinic Wait Time2: 0 days

NOTE Clinic Wait Time1 represents the difference between the date the

appointment was entered and the date it was performed. Clinic Wait

Time2 represents the difference between the 'CID/Preferred date' and the date the appointment was performed.

\*\*\* Patient Information \*\*\*

Date of Birth JUL 28, 1983

ID: 413-43-4372

Sex MALE

Marital Status: NEVER MARRIED

Religious Pref JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES

Primary Elig. SC, 50% TO 100%

POS. PERSIAN GULF WAR

Address:

Phone: (989)988-1114

PO BOX 3678

Cell Phone. (989)988-1114

SAGINAW, MICHIGAN 48605-3678 Pager #: UNANSWERED

UNITED STATES

EMAIL ADDRESS NERI TAWFIQ@YAHOO COM

Radiation Exposure NO

Status: NO INPT./LOD ACT

Prisoner of War: NO

Last Admit/Lodger Date

AO Exp/Loc NO

Last Disch /Lodger Date

Combat Veteran, YES

Combat Veteran End Date JUL 17, 2013

PROI 112/SHAD NO

SW Asia Conditions NO

22-00602-+F 3 of 3

\*\*\* Check Out \*\*\*

No check out information.



Aleda E. Lutz VA Medical Center 1500 Weiss Street Saginaw, MI 48602 www.saginaw.va.gov

04/01/2021

In Reply Refer To: 655/116

NERI MANASSAH HAMID TAWFIQ 107 SOUTH WASHINGTON AVE APT B412 SAGINAW, MI 48607



Dear Neri Manassah Hamid Tawliq,

In accordance with Veterans Health Administration Directive 2010-053, National Patient Record Flags, and Medical Center Policy 116-14 Management of Disruptive Behavior / Incorporating National Patient Record Flags, the Medical Center Director is responsible for ensuring employees, volunteers, and patients are provided with a safe environment to work and/or receive health care. One mechanism for promoting staff and Veteran safety is the Disruptive Behavior Committee (DBC). The DBC reviews situations of concern regarding patient and staff safety secondary to disruptive behaviors.

Given this background, it is important to share with you that the DBC met on 03/31/2021 and determined that behavior on 03/23/2021 raises legitimate concerns regarding the safety of the staff who serve you and/or those that visit/serve within our facilities. Specifically you went to the pharmacy office banging on the door to speak to your former supervisors; attempted multiple times to contact your former colleagues and supervisors, for reasons unrelated to your medical care. This behavior has caused concern among the pharmacy staff regarding their personal safety.

Consequently, it is determined that an alert known as a Category I Behavioral Patient Record Flag will be activated on your computerized medical record to alert staff of these concerns and Orders of Behavioral Restriction will be initiated to maintain a safe environment of care.

Patient Record Flag notification:

The wording of the flag will state:

I requested a FOIN for the beinfolmented?
below, they refused to give me the infolmented?

"Veteran has a history of verbal aggression including use of profanity, yelling, and demanding."

Veteran has a history of inappropriate communication, (frequent phone calls, profanity, demeaning remarks, potential threats) when perceived needs are not met."

If you should ever find yourself in an emotional crisis wherein danger to yourself or others is imminent, please be advised that you should call 911 or go to the nearest hospital emergency room.

For emotional support, 24 hours per day, please consider calling

the Veterans Crisis Line: 1-800-273-8255 (press 1 for Veterans).

Page 1 of 3

T4372



Aleda E. Lutz VA Medical Center 1500 Weiss Street Saginaw, Mt 48602 www.saginaw.va.gov

#### **Order of Behavioral Restrictions:**

Pursuant to Federal Regulation, 38 CFR, Parl 17.107, VA may restrict the time, place, and manner of medical care to Veterans who are disruptive or pose a risk of disruptive behavior. Accordingly, the following changes to your care are hereby in effect immediately. The following wording will be included on the behavioral flag documenting your restrictions:

"Veteran will check in with VA Police for any medical appointments or medical needs no more than 30 minutes prior to scheduled appointments to be escorted while on VA Medical Center property."

If you wish to appeal these restrictions, you have 30 days to do so. You may appeal by doing the following:

a. Send a letter to the Chief of Staff at the below listed address stating your disagreement with the restrictions and the reasons for your disagreement. The letter must be postmarked no later than +30 days from the date flag placed to

ALEDA E. LUTZ VA MEDICAL CENTER

Altn: Chief of Staff 1500 WEISS STREET SAGINAW, MI 48602

b. These restrictions are effective as of 03/31/2021 and remain in effect during any appeal.

#### Duration of Flag/Restrictions:

Going forward, the Disruptive Behavior Committee will review Veteran Tawfirq's "flag" status 12 months from the date of this is letter. The flag may be removed prior to that point, if a consistent record of positive and safe behavior is clearly demonstrated.

# Appeal rights wording of the Flag:

You may request to amend the language/wording used in documentation of the flag. If you wish to do so, please complete the attached form and submit to the Privacy Officer at:

# ALEDA E. LUTZ VA MEDICAL CENTER

Attn: Privacy Officer

If you should ever find yourself in an emotional crisis wherein danger to yourself or others is imminent, please be advised that you should call 911 or go to the nearest hospital emergency room.

For emotional support, 24 hours per day, please consider calling the Veterans Crisis Line: 1-800-273-8255 (press 1 for Veterans).





Aleda E. Lutz VA Medical Center 1500 Weiss Street Seginaw, MI 48602 www.saginaw.va.gov

1500 WEISS STREET SAGINAW, MI 48602

Thank you for your service. As a Veteran, you have served our country, for which I am grateful. Nevertheless, the purpose of the flag and the temporary restrictions is the promotion of the welfare and safety of the staff, Veterans, and all those who visit our facilities.

Sincerely,

The Aleda E. Lutz VA Disruptive Behavior Committee

cc: Chief of Staff (11); Chief, Police Service (07B)



If you should ever find yourself in an emotional crisis wherein danger to yourself or others is imminent, please be advised that you should call 911 or go to the nearest haspital emergency room.

For emotional support, 24 hours per day, please consider calling the Veterans Crisis Line: 1-800-273-8255 (press 1 for Veterans).

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# Aleda E. Lutz VA Medical Center 1500 Weiss St Saginaw, M1 48603

May 11, 2021

Mr. Neri Tawlio 107 S. Washington Ave Apt B412 Saginaw, M148607-1262



Dear Mr. Tawfig.

I received your letter requesting an appeal of the Patient Record Flag (PRF), Category I, Behavioral and Order of Behavioral Restriction placed on your Computerized Patient Record System (CPRS). I reviewed the determination of the Disruptive Behavior Committee and concurred with the finding and decision to place the Patient Record Flag and order of behavioral restriction." Your request for appeal was then forwarded to two independent reviewers and then the Veterans Integrated Service Network (VISN) for an additional independent review. All reviewers concur with the decision to uphold the Patient Record Flag and behavioral restriction. No additional appeals of the PRF or the restriction will be accepted.

Your Patient Record Flag and behavioral restriction will be reviewed again in two years. The Disruptive Behavior Committee will determine whether to amend, continue, or discontinue the Patient Record Flag and behavioral restriction. The most effective way for you to influence future decisions about whether to continue the PRF and restriction is to demonstrate a significant and consistent positive change in your behavior. The restrictions do not reduce your eligibility for VA health care. You remain eligible to access any medically appropriate VA health care including scheduled or unscheduled services.

Our goal at the Aleda E. Lutz VA Medical Center is to provide quality care to our Veterans in a safe environment. Therefore, it is imperative that each Veteran and their visitor(s) show respect towards his/her treatment team and others within this facility. We look forward to providing you with the health care services to which you are entitled as a Veteran.

As a reminder: for life-threatening emergencies, you should come to the Alcda E. Lutz VA Medical Center's Urgent Care Clinic, go to the nearest VA Emergency Department, or go to the closest non-VA emergency department or crisis center at your own expense. If you are suicidal or in crisis, please call the VA's Suicide Hotline at 1-800-273-TALK (8255) 24/7/365.

Sincerely,

James R. Hines 1726462 172640 Uste: 2021.05,14 14:05:05 -010:Y James R. Hines, MD, DABFP, FACOG Chief of Staff

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Page 2 of 3

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# Case 4:22-cv-10175-SDD-APP ECF No. 1, PageID.19 Filed 01/27/22 Page 19 of 44



DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS POLICE 655 - ALEDA E. LUTZ VAMC - SAGINAW - VISN 19 1509 WEISS STREET SAGINAW, MI, 48692

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	WITNESS	655210077_1_1_1	
Narralive text FOLLOW UP OVERVIEW On 4-13-21 at approximately 0700 hours I an area of concurrent federal jurisdiction, whincident where officers needed to escort Neri	er asked me to do some	orts in my office at the Aleda E. Lutz VAMC, camera review on a case. He told me the a review.	
Chief told me to check for camera angles on pharmacy in the Basement of Building 22 an wanting to come in or speak to someone about	d according to the Journal Entry on	415 hours. Nen had gone down to the that date, was pounding on the outer doors	
When I got back from the gun range for training show the outer door of the pharmacy is 22-B to attempt to would try again the next day, in case the systems.	E-1. This camera did not record vid to pull recordings of that camera up,		to
On 4-14-21 at approximately 1245 hours I retime." From other camera angles I could see that door where he would have been standing camera. This showed [1.5.7.2.]	a Neri approach the area of the door g. I could see the inside of the adm	, but no other camera showed the outside o	ent
12 1 2 2	Prepared By:	Submittee	
	n (2.gm)	94 15 2021	1112
Signature		Reviewed By/Date	
		04 16 2021 1157	

Case 4:22-cv-10175-SDD-APP ECF No. 1, PageID.20 Filed 01/27/22 Page 20 of 44 one was making mand gestures which normally indicate size has nothing turner to say to the subject.

On 4-15-21 I downloaded the video from 22-BE-Pharm Admin-1 onto the share drive.

Camera review was inconclusive,



Prenared Ry:	Submitted Date nt-15 2021 1112
Signature	Reviewed By/Date
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# Case 4:22-cv-10175-SDD-APP ECF No. 1, PageID.21 Filed 01/27/22 Page 21 of 44

Fallow !!p

DEPART MENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS POLICE 655 - ALEDA E. LUTZ VAMC - SAGINAW - VISN 10 1500 WEISS STREET SAGINAW, MI, 48602

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City		State 311	Zip 48602		Country		Address Type
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(WORK) 9894972	Seques 500 EX						
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Narrative text	×
FOLLOW UP OVERVIEW	Or please readily
	of please Read!!!
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THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPERTY O	War alloging Deserted to the second
be downloaded, as nothing recorded, and it appears this camera	continues to be non-operational
On the morning of 4-20-21 at approximately 0640 hours I attemp	fed to download the video and but
each of the three attempted downloads, the same error code app	correct which and the video again, but was unsuccessful. With
the export process."	reared writer said, "An unknown error occurred while doing
, e	
I spoke to and advised him of this. I told him I was the	
as they were all witnesses to they have	and and
statement regarding the events of that day, [1] agreed this woul	I would ask each of them to fill out a voluntary written
agreed this woul	d be a good idea.
FOLLOW UP WITH	117
FOLLOW UP WITH STAFF	
A6	
At approximately 1115 hours I went to the pharmacy to hand out	VA Form 0024 (Voluntary Witness Statements) to
I Ulitti Was (et in): ' ' ladvicad ma i: '	
be back on Thursday 4-22-21. She said was out of the c	Three until 20070y/motors (ATT) Forms
A TOWN OF A TOWN OF A TOWN A STRUCTURE OF THE PARTY OF TH	PDIS OF March 22rd with New Charlette
asked her if it was a Report of Contact that she filled out and she	said yes. Unid her solve and she already did.
Contact in lieu of a Voluntary Witness Statement. She said she was sign the document. I then had been for the form.	yould 6th one out and the state of
sign the document. I thanked her for her time,	room in the out and I could come back later to watch her
The state of the s	
At approximately 1200 hours I went back to collect the statement	, ( <u>saugosta</u> ),
declarant and I signed as the witness. I would be a	from lobserved her sign the document as the
declarant, and I signed as the witness. I would later download a the share drive. The following is what	copy of this, as well as the other voluntary statements onto
the share drive. The following is what wrote in her state	ment:
print	
in basement building	22 and it is
pharmacy. Around 2:15pm on March 23rd, 2021, I heard the door	rbell ring and saw Neri Tawfig standing at the pharmacy
The something. He	e requested to speak to
went into and seid "He's here." She went out to the	E window and asked what she could do for him. U.
requestion to speak in tier regarding being terminated over take a	CCUSSIONS I told bigs it were due to a panduration or
including an unprofessional email that was sent to her. He then re	principle of this on he did to be de
their began demanding answer his questions about being t	eminated to which she responded sourced times that it was
a conduct issue and he is entitled to the appeals process. She re	
to him today.	was going to talk
He left the window and walked down the half around the comer, ar	ord returned a minute later ctill eleting be a seek at a seek
this point he was being loud and acting agressive (sic). Thit the L	
waited a few moments. Neri was still at the window during this tim	
Situation. I then called x 13911 and seked for an officer to come to	e talking loudly and was trying to diffuse the
Situation. I then called x13911 and asked for an officer to come to	he basement because Nen was being very loud and
causing a scene in the hallway he then left the window and walke	around the corner towards the elevators. We did not see
him again after that, but received word a few minutes later that he police officers." End of statement.	was upstairs near the dispensing pharmacy talking to some
spoke to and advised him that based off of	<b> </b>
door. It is unknown if this was the exact wording to	statement. Neri did not pound or beat on the pharmacy
TO MINIOR THE MAS AND THE EXACT MOLOUID TO	(who was serving as out (1 1 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2
2	
Prepared By:	Submitted Date
	94 22 2021 1124
Signature	Reviewed By/Date
•	
	D4 27 2021 (MES

While we were waiting for Police Service to arrive, Mr. Tawliq again stated he was seemed to be focused in one situation with one over and over. I rel situation of conduct that resulted in his termination and reminded him of the email to unprofessional and demeaning. That made him noticeably upset and more argume the situation, I started to only instruct him over and over again to leave the area until the situation.	ayed to him that there was not just one hat he had sent to me in which he was intative. At that time, in an effort to diffuse
came into the Pharmacy shortly after Mr. Tawfig was banging on the elevator with his walking device. I believe this information was	left and indicated they had heard Mr. Tawfiq relayed to the Police.
After the exchange with Mr. Tawfig, I was uncomfortable walking out to my car whe escort to my car to ensure my safety. Members of my staff indicated to me that the	n I left that day. I requested a Police y felt fearful. I advised them to walk out
In a group and request a police escort if needed." End of statement.  It should be noted that none of these written statements said Neri pounded or beat time. All documents pertaining to statements made by employees for this incident a folder bearing this incident report number.	en the door to phermacy that day at that
I then briefed pn my findings, and advised I'll be submitting the incident r	eport.
OUTCOME	(15)
Based on the findings of this follow up, Neri did not pound or beat on the door in an	y way. Case closed.
with the state with the	
Link Time and Market Mitter	Please Note the Emits that were sent to three Chief of Phammy. "She fired one because, I called not because, I called
Let be locality and but he had	family most were
	cent to the chief
	she fired
	of homes F called
THE SUMMERS THE	her act on somethis she her act on somethis she should have close against me allegations made against me and she requested to be and she requested to be sent to active mederial
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Prepared By:	Submitted Date
Signature	Reviewed By/Date
	14 27 2021 (49)5
Page 17 of 24	the Cause for A Ask Ask
" My	e did not come and ast me st where alligations were true, st
Ĥ	we some!

TAWFIO, NERI MANASSAH HAMID

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1

and support to Veteran's care per HFF protocols

/es/ KARYN N GENDREAU, LMS/V Suicide Prevention Obordinator Signed: 03/25/2021 16:03

Date/Time:	24 Mar 2021 @ 1527			
Note fitle.	PSYCHIATRY SOCIAL WORK INPATIENT ASSESSMENT AND PLAN			
location	Lieutenant Colonel Charles S. Kettles VA Medical Center			
agned By:	KOEHMSTEDT, HOLLY			
Co-signed By.	KOB-MS/EDT, HOLLY			
	25 Mar 2021 @ 1034			

doto

LCCAL TITLE PSYCHIATRY SOCIAL WORK INPATIENT ASSESSMENT AND PLA STANDARD TITLE SOCIAL WORK INPATIENT E& M NOTE DATE OF NOTE: MAR24, 2021@15:27 ENTRY DATE: MAR24, 2021@15:27:49 AUTHOR KOBHMSTEDT, HOLLY EXPOSSIONER URGENCY: STATUS COMPLETED

Ourrent address on record 107 SWASHINGTON AVE APT B412 SAGINAW, MICHIGAN 48607

ADMISSION DATE 24 March 2021

SOCIAL WORKER AND VETERAN MET ON: 24 March 2021

PEASON FOR ADMISSION: Veteran stated he was terminated at his employment at Seginaw VAMC, stating this was without explanation. He stated he was provided conduct violation printout, but wouldn't explain why he violated the conduct.

and stated his supervisor refused to explain. He stated he was devastated and couldn't comprehend that he was fired. He is in contact with his union representative but very upset and would like to work on appealing. Other than this, he stated he "A few weeks ago, I came into his (supervisor's) office.

and he is saying this is the accusations that they said. I said I didn't do

it, but he said, 'that's what they said'." Veteran stated his word did not

matter. Veteran stated he was accused of "throwing stuff accound the office",

land Veteran asked his supervisor to look at the camera's, and his supervisor

again refused. Veteran stated he was told by his union supervisor that he won't be fired related to the code of conduct violation, but Veteran stated



TAVA TO NERI MANASSAH HAMID

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he was told yesterday that he was fired for the code of conduct violation. Veteran stated the firing "just took me down" to the point he developed to

Veteran stated he presented to the EEQ office to fill out the Merit System Protection Board paperwork to contest the stated while filling out the paperwork, he started feeling depressed and suicidal, particularly after he was told he couldn't schedule a meeting the Director of the VA who agned off

on his paperwork. Veteran stated he won't have income starting May 2021 to pay his rent due to job loss. He was admitted to AIMH unit for stabilization of St

ACLITE TREATMENT GOALS "I want my job back, I know you guys can't do that... I'm just worried because April is my fast check, I won't have money in May to pay rent."



RECOVERY COALS POST DISCHARGE TREATMENT GOALS "I was gonna trying to get a

contract with the VA to due pending. I got my consultant's license pay off

my two loans for student loans and my car. But I can't do that now "

VETERAN (DENTIFIED STRENGTHS When asked if he has personal strengths, characteristics or support, Veteran appeared overwhelmed and replied, "No.

don't.

the street

VETERAN IDENTIFIED LIMITATIONS: "I'm out of a job. And it is a federal job. Do you know how long it took me to get this job? It took years ...now I'm back on

36

GENERAL ASSESSMENT OF VETERAN DURING EVALUATION. Veteran was sitting in his wheelchair fit milieu shortly after admitting to the unit. He witnessed this writer working with other patients for discharge, asking. "Are you the

worker? Can I meet with you? I was just wrongluily terminated from my job and need to get some documents from my e-mail." Vateran was informed that this writer would try to meet with Veteran after the numerous discharges. Veteran continued to wait in milieu throughout the day and reproached this writer, appearing amious, but was polite and redirectable when this writer was still working with discharges. This writer met with Veteran later in the afternoon. Veteran requested his phone to show this writer e-mails from his appointed Union.

representative and Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) office. He agreed to assessment after this writer assisted him in printing the documents he was emailed related to his termination, for which he was terminated from job yesterday.

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Veteran was of large build, with long dreadlocks, comfortably dressed in AMHisoued T-shirt and pajamas, appearing in good hygene, using wheeld lar to ambulate, which he was able to maneuver) He stated he is a disabled Veteran and

copport stand for forcinerods of time and uses a wheelchair at home/work as well. Veteran had amicous affect but was smiling and politic. Veteran attributed his acute psychiatric issue entirely to his employment loss yesterday, which he stated happened without explanation of "conduct violation" he was reported for

He sighed and put his head in his hands, reading over the documentation regarding his termination he printed out from his e-mail, stating.

That's

crazy, yo" numerous times. He stated he had proceeded with the EEO office to

appeal his termination already, but would like to continue writing a statement for his appeal to be more detailed than the one he already submitted to the EEO office. He stated he will currently spend his time reflecting and writing, thanking this writer for printing out documents related to his termination.



CUFFENT LIVING CONDITIONS

Rents apartment in Saginaw, MI.

Able to return home upon discharge?

Yes, however he is concerned with paying rent in May 2021 due to no longer having a job.

FAMILY CIPCUM STANCES COMPOSITION OF THE FAMILY GFOUP. Veteran stated he is once divorced with no children currently. Veteran stated his mother and son died in the same year, 2014. Veteran stated his son was just born when he passed away, after crying he was taken to the doctor and he passed of a rare heart defect. He stated since his son passed, he had flashbacks and stayed single, without his baby's mother or any significant other. Veteran stated additionally, his grandfather passed away 4-5 years ago, who he was really close with

Veteran stated he additionally has 4 sisters, no brothers "I talk to my older sister when I can, I talk to my younger sister when I can, I talk to my twin sisters when I can, I talk to my twin sisters when I can, It's just, they got their own life, I don't want to

bother them more than I have to." He stated he has his father but "we're not

dose like that, and he knows that."

ABUSE HISTORY

Documented history of MST, which Veteran preferred not to discuss

SOCIAL SUPPORT: Veteran stated he is a member of American Legion. He stated "I'm out, spiritually, I haven't found my home I don't disrespect nobody."

PETR GROUP. Veteran stated he has one very good friend, who he calls "brother" Benny Bass. He stated Benny is the only friend he told about



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N

STREET DRUGUSE IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS?

¥1.5

TYPE Mariguana and cocaine

AMOUNT: Undear

FREQUENCY. Patient use to use daily while he was in pharmacy school, his last use was in June or July 2020, it is unclear how frequently he was using at this time.

Denies consequences of use PRESCRIPTION DRUG ABUSE IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS? No.



If Veteran has past or current substance use/abuse/dependence: -HISTORY OF USE/ABUSE/DEPENDENCE WITHIN LIPETIME PRIOR TO LAST 12 MONTH& Patient

is a history of marijuana, cocaine, and alcohol use. His cocaine use was heavy during pharmacy school. He reports having difficulty sleeping on account of his PTSD and MST, so you'd use cocaine to help them stay awake. His last use of

occaine or manijuana was in Line or July 2020. Patient reports that he uses

alcohol, drinking 6 to 8 Long Island loed teas at a time. He was unclear regarding frequency. He reports that his last drink was 3 to 4 weeks ago.

HISTORY OF WITHDRAWAL Does not report a history of significant withdrawal

CONSEQUENCES FFIOM USE Unknown/unreported

INSIGHT INTO CONSEQUENCES FROM USE riva

-TYPES OF PREVIOUS TREATMENT AND PESPONSES TO THEATMENT Unknown

-TIFEATMENT ACCEPTANCE OR MOTIVATION FOR OHANGE AND ANY OBSTACLES TO PEDOVERY DIG

- A 3 + 10

not discuss this at length during interview today

PAST MEDICAL/SUFGICAL HISTORY

DIAGNOSES
wisdome teeth out

Mallen arches with brateral hallux valgus

fow back pain due to degenerative arthritis

MST from service during deployment and combat

Attention deficit disorder-on medication through mental heath

**ध्य** 

depression with past thoughts of suicide denies current thoughts and states is connected with Veteran's Crisis' line and has mental health. TAWFIO, NERI MANASSAH HAMID

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The patient reports that he was quite distraught while filling out paperwork online yesterday in an effort to get to the bottom of his termination. In the setting he began having thoughts about killing himself, it is unclear whether he

had thoughts of specific method or the degree of his intent. He was quite dear,

nowever, that he did not have any homicidal ideation or thoughts about hurting the people who were involved in his termination.

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Psychiatric Review of Systems:

As far as depressive symptoms, patient denies difficulty sleeping, anhedonia, guilt, change in energy, decreased concentration, change in appetite, psychomotor agitation or depression. He does report suicidal ideation as noted above. He does describe feeling the sense that his mood is descending, and whenever he feels this way he knows it is time to seek help

Patient does not report any symptoms of psychosis, but this was not formally assessed.

Patient reports some anxiety, reporting that it is recently increased following his termination.

As far as PTSD symptoms, patient reports that he has flashbacks and nightmares. However, his symptoms are improved from their worst. He reports that Seroquel and process and Prazosin have been Helpful with sleep.

nares. roquel



-PAST PS/O-HATFIC DIAGNOSESPTSD, MDD, MST, ADHD, cocarne use disorder, marijuana use disorder, alcohol use disorder

#### PAST PSYCHIATPIC HOSPITALIZATIONS

Patient reports that he was hospitalized following his grandfather's passing

about four weeks ago. He was experiencing thoughts of sucide, and was thinking about driving into traffic or using one of his guns. He flagged down a police officer and asked to be admitted to the hospital. Per chart review, patient was admitted to Bettle Creek VA Hospital in January 2021 with suicidal ideation in the setting of the passing of his grandfather.

Per chart review, Patient was admitted to the VA hospital in August 2019 for PTSD. He presented to the ED feeling depressed and suicidal. His Zoloft was increased and he was started on prazosin.

PAST AND CURPENT PSYCHATRIC TREATMENT:

Patiently currently being treated with Seroquel 400 mg QHS partisan 5 mg QHS so filling 200 mg daily, Adderall 10 mg BlD, BuSpar 5 mg Twice daily, nattrexone

50 mg daily.

(37)

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SAFETY AND SUBSTANCE USE HISTORIES—

(Insert AIMH SAFETY AND SUBSTANCE USE HISTORY template located in Templates, Shared Templates, Psychiatry Inpatient. This is a LCAHC) requirement. You must answer every question.)

#### SAFETY AND VIOLENCE HISTORY

Any suicide attempts in the past 6 months?

Any suicidal ideation in the past 6 months?

Yes

Describe plan/preparation/intent to act.

Patient has had suicidal ideation on several occasions, once earlier this year in January after the passing of his grandfather more recently yesterday and today following his termination from work yesterday. Any suicide attempts in lifetime prior to the past 6 months?

Yes Describe plan/preparation/intent to act:

Feports of past suicide attempt in which he placed a loaded handgun into his mouth and pulled the trigger, there was no round in the chamber.

Patient then grabbed another handgun which he was sure had around in the trigger, but before making a second attempt he called for help.

Any suicidal ideation in lifetime prior to the past 6 months?

Wes

Describe plan/preparation/intent to act.

#### See above

Any wolence towards others in the past 6 months?

No

Any violence towards others in lifetime prior to past 6 months?

No

#### SUBSTANCE USE HISTORY

#### ALCOHOLUSE IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS?

Yes

TYPE Long Island loed teas

AMOUNT: 6 to 8 cans

FFEOLIENCY. Intermittent, at one point patient reports that he was using quite regularly while he was living in his car in 2020.

Denies consequences of use TOBACCO USE IN THE PAST 12 MONTHSP



# 107 S. Washington Saginaw, MI 48602 RE: Neri Tawfiq v. Teresa Dufresne Case No. 21-10976 (E.D. Mich.) 10th Circuit Case No. 21-44244-P Dear Mr. Tawfig: Enclosed please find a copy of the Defend ay regarding the above-captioned case.

# U.S. Department of Justice

United States Attorney's Office Eastern District of Michigan

211 W. Fort Street, Suite 2001 Detroit, Michigan 48226 Telephone: (313) 226-9617 Facsimile: (313) 226-3271 Email: zak.toomey@usdoj.gov

June 29, 2021

Cout of Vetorus Appeals

Gref of Staff Sames Hines Said

Lippor level management newed

Lie evidence the same clay. So

the quetions is where is

the viden for the same the video footuse?? Motion for Summary Judgment filed

Very truly yours,

SAIMA MOHSIN

Acting United States Attorney

<u>/s/ Zak Toomey</u> ZAK TOOMEY Assistant United States Attorney Case ECF No. 4, PageID.32 Filed 06/29/21 Page 9 of 27

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#### Introduction

Plaintiff Neri Tawfiq is a current patient of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and former employee. Tawfiq accuses his former supervisor at the Saginaw VA. Teresa Dufrsene, of stalking him because, after he had a violent outburst at work, the VA placed a behavioral flag on his patient record and Dufresne recommended his termination. Tawfiq petitioned a state court for a personal protection order that would prevent his former supervisor from entering her work site or reporting Tawfiq's improper conduct. Because Tawfiq's suit is against a federal employee acting within the scope of her employment, the United States removed this suit to federal court under 28 U.S.C. § 1442 and now moves for summary judgment because there is no valid path for Tawfiq to obtain the injunctive relief he seeks in this suit.

Background

From 11-2020 to 3-23-21.

Plaintiff Neri Tawfiq receives medical care at the Saginaw VA Medical no signaw
Aleda Lyta

Center. (See PPO, ECF No. 1, PageID.8, 10). In addition, from November 22,

2020, to March 23, 2021, Tawfiq was employed as a staff pharmacist at the **Sames R. Hinos. MJ, DABFP. FA(OG** Saginaw VA Medical Center. (Hines Decl., ECF No. 1, PageID.5, ¶5). Defendant Teresa Dufresne is the Chief of Pharmacy at the Saginaw VA and was Tawfiq's third-line supervisor. (Hines Decl., ECF No. 1, PageID.5, at ¶6).

On March 23, 2021, Tawfiq had an outburst at work at the Saginaw VA



during which he yelled, used profanity, and made threats. (Exhibit 1 - OBR Ltr., at 1). Based on this conduct, Dufresne recommended that the VA terminate Tawfiq and, after upper-level management reviewed the incident, the VA terminated him the same day. (Hines Decl., ECF No. 1, PageID.5, at ¶ 7, 8). On the day of his termination, Tawfiq was instructed only to speak with Human Resources about his termination and instructed not to contact Dufresne. (Exhibit 2 - VA Police Report, at 1).

Two days later, on March 25, 2021, Tawfiq contacted the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) to file an Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) complaint for discrimination against the VA based on his termination. (Exhibit 3 EEO Partial Accept. Ltr., at 1, ¶1.).

On March 29, 2021, Tawfiq emailed Dufresne twice. (Exhibit 4 - Tawfiq

Emails, at 1-2). Dufresne did not respond to either email. (See id.). On March 31,

Aleda Late Said "their cano's were not withing";

2021, a VA regional management committee reviewed Tawfiq's March 23rd

outburst and determined that he posed a risk to patient and staff safety when

visiting VA medical facilities as a patient. (Exhibit 1 - OBR Ltr.). Dufresne is not a

member of this committee. (Exhibit 5 - Liegghio Decl., at ¶¶ 5-6). On April 1,

2021, the committee placed a Category I Behavioral Patient Record Flag on his file

and mailed Tawfiq a letter notifying him of the patient flag the same day. (Exhibit

1 - OBR Ltr.); see also 38 C.F.R. § 17.107. Based on that categorization, Tawfiq is



#### **DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS** OFFICE OF RESOLUTION MANAGEMENT

# Written Affidavit in the Matter of the EEO Complaint of Discrimination filed by

Neri Tawfig Complainant

V.

Secretary Department of Veterans Affairs 810 Vermont Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20420

Respondent

Facility: Aleda E. Lutz VAMC Saginaw, MI

The accepted claim under investigation is:

Case No. 200J-0655-2021102927

Supervisor of Teresa DuFresse,
Sames Hines the staff of Chief
Fabricated to U.S. Repartment
Of Justice about my
Termination. This is why
Termination. This is why
Termination a Pape, because Eam
is: Saared of Jeadership & Atedu
cted to a hostile work environment based.

Claims: Whether complainant was subjected to a hostile work environment based on Race (Black), Sex (Male), Color (Brown), and Disability, when: a) from January 4. 2021, until March 23, 2021, coworkers commented about his disability,3 told him to, "shut up," and falsely accused him of chastising them; b) since January 4, 2021, until March 23, 2021, managers asked about the color of his skin and about his dreadlocks, commented on once having a Black pharmacist, told him he was a "know-it-all," told him to keep his personal life to himself and to not question his coworkers, dismissed his professional input on their work, and dismissed/ignored his complaints of harassment; c) on January 26, 2021, he overheard coworkers discussing his hospital visit and when he reported the matter to a manager, he was told he was, "...probably just hearing things," and then the manager took no action to address his harassment; d) on March 15, 2021, a coworker said to him that he (complainant), "liked someone playing in (his) ass," a supervisor publicly commented his (complainant's) wearing a pink shirt meant he was gay, and a supervisor touched him on his lower back; e) on March 21, 2021, managers commented that his dreadlocks were "down": and. includes the following independently actionable claims:

- (1) On March 11, 2021, he received a Written Counseling.
- (2) On March 19, 2021, he received a Letter of Instruction.
- (3) On March 23, 2021, his probationary employment was terminated.

Do you (Teresa DuFresne) solemnly swear/affirm that the responses you
provide in response to the following questions are true and complete to the
best of your knowledge and belief?
Yes

2. Write your complete name for the record?
Teresa Lynn DuFresne

- 3. Who is your first line supervisor?

  James Hines, Chief of Staff
- 4. Who is your second line supervisor?
  Chris Cauley, Acting Medical Center Director
- 5. What is your sex? Female
- 6. What is your race? Caucasian
- 7. What is your color? White
- 8. Were you aware of the complainant's race, sex and color? If so, what are they?

Yes. African American male

9. If so, when and how did you become aware of the complainant's race, sex, and color?

When a candidate accepts a tentative offer of employment, Human Resources sends over a "green sheet" which identifies the applicants race and sex.

- 10. Were you aware of the complainant's disability?
  Yes
- 11. If so, when and how did you become aware of the complainant's disability?

I was made aware of Mr. Tawfiq's service connection when he sent an email to several individuals indicating that he had suffered service connected injuries.

12. Did the complainant file a union grievance or MSPB case regarding any of the issues stated in this complainant? If so, which did he file and when? Please Explain

I do not know of any union grievances filed by Mr. Tawfiq. I believe he filed a case with MSPB but I am not privileged to any of those details.

Claim: (1) On March 11, 2021, he received a Written Counseling.

07/17/202

Yahoo Mail - Rebuttal Statement

7/17/21, 9:59 AM

#### Rebuttal Statement

From: Bean, Brandi L. (ORMDI) (brandi.bean2@va.gov)

neri\_tawfiq@yahoo.com; neri\_tawfiq@icloud.com To:

Date: Tuesday, July 6, 2021, 03:00 PM EDT

Good day,

Please read this in its entirety pase from ease. This is dealing with my Termination and Behovioral Flas placed or am profile.

Please reply to this email and provide a rebuttal statement. The rebuttal statement is your response to the articulated reasons that management has stated regarding your accepted claim. Below, please see the reasons and provide a counter statement by Monday, July 12, 2021.

Claims: Whether complainant was subjected to a hostile work environment based on Race (Black), Sex (Male), Color (Brown), and Disability, when: a) from January 4, 2021, until March 23, 2021, coworkers commented about his disability, told him to, "shut up," and falsely accused him of chastising them; b) since January 4, 2021, until March 23, 2021, managers asked about the color of his skin and about his dreadlocks, commented on once having a Black pharmacist, told him he was a "know-it-all," told him to keep his personal life to himself and to not question his coworkers, dismissed his professional input on their work, and dismissed/ignored his complaints of harassment; c) on January 26, 2021, he overheard coworkers discussing his hospital visit and when he reported the matter to a manager, he was told he was, "...probably just hearing things," and then the manager took no action to address his harassment; d) on March 15, 2021, a coworker said to him that he (complainant), "liked someone playing in (his) ass," a supervisor publicly commented his (complainant's) wearing a pink shirt meant he was gay, and a supervisor touched him on his lower back; e) on March 21, 2021, managers commented that his dreadlocks were "down"; and, includes the following independently actionable claims:

(1) On March 11, 2021, he received a Written Counseling.

(2) On March 19, 2021, he received a Letter of Instruction.

(3) On March 23, 2021, his probationary employment was terminated.

Chief of staff sames R. Hives MD Report something different in U.S. Department of Sustize

diculated Reasons:

on my termination.

Management stated the complainant did receive a written counseling on or around the date 3/11/2021, his Supervisor, Jeffrey Johnson, had spoken to him regarding multiple performance and conduct related concerns on or around 3/11/21 and Post training evaluation showed that he was not receptive to some of the ways that they deal with work The complainant received a Letter of Instruction from his supervisor Jeffrey Johnson on 3/19/21, about his conduct Bria Irvin a staff member disclosed that the complainant was treating her badly singling her out and chastising her. The complainant was terminated during his probationary period on 3/23/21, for conduct related concerns, which included chastising the Chief of Pharmacy for her leadership style, and saying he could help her do her job. 6

where is the email stating this??

Yahoo Mail - Rebuttal Statement 7/17/21, 9:59 AM



Management stated they have no knowledge of the complainant's coworkers commenting on his disability, him being told to, "shut up," or being asked about his skin color or any comments concerning the complainant's dreadlocks, being called a know it all or comments about his personal life. Management did stated that the complainant was accuses of chastising Bria Irvin. Management and witnesses stated they did not discuss the complainant's disability or hospital visit, he was not told was probably hearing things. No one said to the complainant "fliked someone playing in (his) ass," a supervisor publicly commented his (complainant's) wearing a pink shirt meant he was gay, and a supervisor touched him on his lower back; Management claims that the complainant did not bring these issues of harassment to their attention. Management denies that the complainant was discriminated against based on his race, sex, color or disability.

Brandi Bean (She/Her/Hers)

EEO Specialist (Investigator)

The Office of Resolution Management, Diversity& Inclusion (ORMDI) - Midwest District

2255 Enterprise Drive

Westchester, Illinois 60154

Phone: 708-236-2822

Cell: 224-775-8520

Fax: 708-236-2898

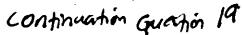
Brandi.Bean2@va.gov

VA Core Values: Integrity Commitment Advocacy Respect Excellence

VA Core Characteristics: Trustworthy | Accessible | Quality | Innovative | Agile | Integrated

NOTE: If you are not the intended recipient, any dissemination or duplication of this e-mail is prohibited by law. If you received this e-mail in error, please permanently delete and contact the sender by e-mail.

NOTICE: ORM-DI is operating in a 100% telework environment. ORM-DI does not have the capability to send and/or receive hardcopy documents at this time. In order to be more responsive, we ask that if you have previously sent documents to us via U.S. Mail or other delivery services, please resend those documents to us electronically. All meetings, interviews, and mediation sessions will be conducted in a virtual capacity (i.e. telephonic, skype, video conference etc.). Your patience is appreciated during the COVID-19 Pandemic.



Pleading Number: 2021014110



Aleda E. Lutz VA Medical Center 1500 Weiss Street Saginaw, MI 48602 www.saginaw.va.gov

March 23, 2021

Neri Tawfiq Staff Pharmacist Aleda E. Lutz VAMC 1500 Weiss Street Saginaw, MI 48602

SUBJ: Termination during Probationary Period

- 1. At the time of your Excepted appointment on November 22, 2020, as a Staff Pharmacist, you were informed that your first year of employment would be subject to a probationary/trial period. The probationary/trial period is an important part of the hiring process and during this time, supervisors are required to study an employee's potential closely to determine whether s/he is suited for successful government work. When it becomes apparent that an employee's conduct, general character traits or capacity do not meet the requirements for satisfactory service, the supervisor is required to initiate action to separate the employee.
- 2. Teresa DuFresne, Chief of Pharmacy has recommended that you be terminated from your position for failure to qualify during your probationary/trial period. Your termination is due to conduct.
- 3. The effective date of your termination will be at 11:30am on March 23, 2021. You must properly clear the facility, turn in any government property and clear any indebtedness prior to the release of your final paycheck.
- You will be retained in an Active duty status during the advance notice period.
- 5. You may seek review of this action. Such reviews include:
  - a) Appealing this action to the Merit Systems Protection Board (MSPB) if you allege you were discriminated against due to marital status or partisan political reasons or your removal was not effected in accordance with the procedural requirements of 5 CFR 315.805\*; or
  - b) seeking corrective action before the U.S. Office of Special Counsel (OSC); or
  - c) pursuing a discrimination complaint with the Office of Resolution Management (ORM).

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Tab 4b Pg 2 page 28 of 48

Submission date: 2021-04-13 16:18:43

Confirmation Number: 109684824

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Tawfig. - Termination (Page 2)

An appeal, complaint, or review concerning this action may not be filed with more than one administrative body. You shall be deemed to have exercised your option to appeal this action at such time as you timely initiate action to appeal to MSPB. If you believe that this action constitutes a prohibited personnel practice under 5 U.S.C. § 2302(b), including retaliation for protected whistleblowing, you may elect to file an appeal to MSPB, or seek corrective action from OSC, and your election is based on which election you file first. If you believe that this action was taken against you for discriminatory reasons, see paragraph six of this memorandum.

- 6. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC): If you believe this action is based on discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age or disabling condition, you may file a complaint of discrimination. If you elect to file a complaint of discrimination, you may do so by contacting the Office of Resolution Management (ORM) at 1-888-566-3982. Your complaint will be processed in accordance with EEOC regulations at 29 C.F.R., Part 1614. Your initial contact with the ORM office must be done within 45 calendar days of the effective date of this action.
- 7. Merit Systems Protection Board (MSPB): If you appeal to the MSPB, your appeal may be submitted by mail, facsimile, by commercial overnight delivery, by electronic filing the MSPB Appeal Form (https://e-appeal.mspb.gov), or in person at any time after you receive this letter, but not later than 30 calendar days after the separation has been effected, or 30 calendar days after the date of the your receipt of this decision, whichever is later. The address to mail your appeal is Central Regional Office, 230 South Dearborn Street, 31st Floor, Chicago, IL 60604-1669. You must submit an original and one copy of both your appeal and all attachments. If you do not submit an appeal within the time set by statute, regulation, or order of a judge, it will be dismissed as untimely filed unless a good reason for the delay is shown. The judge will provide you an opportunity to show why the appeal should not be dismissed as untimely. A copy of the form is available by request if you are unable to access it at the MSPB website. Please refer to the MSPB website (www.mspb.gov) for information regarding the appeals process and procedures that must be followed. You may be represented by an attorney or other representative of your choice. If you decide to file an appeal with MSPB, you should notify the Board that the agency's point of contact for this appeal is: Leigh Ann Zuzula, Human Resources Specialist, Aleda E. Lutz VA Medical Center, 1500 Weiss Street, Saginaw, MI 48602, Phone: 989-930-8848; Fax: 989-321-4909.
- 8. Office of Special Counsel (OSC): If you elect to seek corrective action by the OSC's Complaints Examining Unit (OSC Appeal Form) (https://osc.gov/), your complaint will be limited to a determination as to whether the agency took one or more personnel actions against you in violation of 5 USC 2302(b) (prohibited personnel practices). This can include but is not limited to claims of reprisal for whistleblowing and/or engaging in protected activity. If you are making a claim of retaliation for engaging in one or more protected activities and OSC dismisses your claim, you may have the right to file an individual right of action (IRA) appeal to the MSPB, but such an appeal will be limited to an adjudication of whether you proved that your protected activity was a contributing factor in the effected action.

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# continuation question 19

Tawfiq. - Termination (Page 3)

- 9. Whichever option you may choose to pursue regarding this action (an appeal to the MSPB, a request for corrective action to OSC, or a discrimination complaint), shall be considered an election by you to proceed under that appeal process. However, you may concurrently file a corrective action to OSC and a discrimination complaint.
- 10. If you have any questions concerning this matter or the rights described above, or if you need assistance or additional information, please contact Ms. Leigh Ann Zuzula, Human Resources Specialist, Aleda E. Lutz VA Medical Center, 1500 Weiss Street, Saginaw, MI 48602, Phone: 989-930-8848; Fax; 989-321-4909.

Christopher W. Digitally signed by Christopher W. Cauley 204562 Date: 2021.03.22 14:57:07 Chris Cauley, FACHE Acting Medical Center Director

I certify receipt of this document.

refused to sign

EMPLOYEE SIGNATURE

AFGE Representation (please circle) Present

GE REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

3-23-21

DATE

**Employee declined** 

3-23-2

DATE

000093

Tab 4b Pg 4 page 30 of 48

Confirmation Number: 109684824

Pleading Number: 2021014110

Submission date : 2021-04-13 16:18:43

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Subject Complaint

From Neri Tawfiq <neri\_tawfiq@yahoo.com>

To: Christopher W. Cauley <christopher.cauley@va.gov>

Date Jun 6, 2021 at 2:00 PM

Hello Mr. Cauley,

My livelihood as suffered greatly due to the termination for which I knew nothing about.

False accusations made against me, has cost me my GS-12 Doctor Clinical Pharmacist position.

Chief of Pharmacy Teresa Dufresne and Supervisor Jeffrey Johnson did not make me aware of my termination, before I was terminated. I am a human being, and should not be treated as if, I was less than fecal matter. I have no source of income due to the wrongful termination from pharmacy department of Aleda Lutz VA.

I just do not understand, why no one is listen to anything that, I have said. It seems to me whatever the Acting Medical Director, Chief of Staff, Supervisor of pharmacy, and others say they are totally correct. Anything that, I say is wrong. No one should get terminated from a federal position for something they knew nothing about and never occurred. It does not make any sense for me to drive all the way from Florida to Saginaw, MI just to get terminated on the 90th day of being in the veteran affairs system.

Just because, I am a mix black male does not mean, I am a violent and angry person.

It seems to me, that the Aleda Lutz Veteran affairs, is making me look as if I am a violent person.

I do cry a lot when people do me wrong, but I never retaliate. When I was a pharmacy technician, a customer grabbed my neck tie and slammed me the cash register. While he punched me in my head twice at CV's pharmacy. The store manger asked me" do you want to call the police and report a assault charge", I said no that will not be necessary. The reason for dening the store manger, is because, viewing the patient profile, I found out that he was really struggling with mental conditions. I fully understand were he was coming from, because I worked at the Florida State. Mental Hospital in Chattahoochee, FL.

Respectfully,

,				DVERSPERT FI		
	provided by local rules of coupurpose of initiating the civil	irt. This form, approved by	the Judicial Conference of		1974, is required for the use o	
	I. (a) PLAINTIFFS			DEFENDANT	•	, _
	(b) County of Residence	of First Listed Plaintiff	26145	County of Residence	I Hines e of First Listed Defendant	26145
	(.	EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF C	'ASES)		AN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ( ONDEMNATION CASES, USE TO FLAND INVOLVED.	•
	(c) Attorneys (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone Number)		Attorneys (If Known	)		
	P.O.BOX.367 S Agrav, N	12 Houaneles	<b>(</b>			
				III. CITIZENSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES (Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff		
	1 U.S. Government		(For Diversity Cases Only) and One Box for Defendant) PTF DEF PFF DEF			
	Plaintiff •	(U.S. Government Not a Party)  ument		Citizen of This State	1 Incorporated or P of Business In	
	2 U.S. Government Defendant			Citizen of Another State	2 2 Incorporated and of Business In	· — —
	IV NATURE OF CULT		Citizen or Subject of a E Foreign Country	3 Soreign Nation	6 6	
	IV. NATURE OF SUIT (Place on "X" in One Box Only)  CONTRACT TORTS			FORFEITURE/PENALTY	Click here for: Nature of:	Suit Code Descriptions.  THER STATUTES
	110 Insurance	PERSONAL INJURY	PERSONAL INJURY	625 Drug Related Scizure	422 Appeal 28 USC 158	375 False Claims Act
	120 Marine 130 Miller Act 140 Negotiable Instrument	310 Airplane 315 Airplane Product Liability	365 Personal Injury - Product Liability 367 Health Care/	of Property 21 USC 881	423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157	376 Qui Tam (31 USC 3729(a)) 400 State Reapportionment
	150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgme		Pharmaceutical Personal Injury		PROPERTY RIGHTS 820 Copyrights	410 Antitrust 430 Banks and Banking
	151 Medicare Act 152 Recovery of Defaulted	Liability	Product Liability 368 Asbestos Personal		830 Patent 835 Patent - Abbreviated	450 Commerce
1	Student Loans	340 Marine	Injury Product		New Drug Application	460 Deportation 470 Racketeer Influenced and
Y	(Excludes Veterans)  153 Recovery of Overpayment	345 Marine Product Liability	Liability PERSONAL PROPERT	Y LABOR	840 Trademark 880 Defend Trade Secrets	Corrupt Organizations 480 Consumer Credit
Ú	of Veteran's Benefits 160 Stockholders' Suits	350 Motor Vehicle	370 Other Fraud 371 Truth in Lending	710 Fair Labor Standards Act	Act of 2016	(15 USC 1681 or 1692) 485 Telephone Consumer
1	190 Other Contract	Froduct Liability	380 Other Personal	720 Labor/Management	SOCIAL SECURITY	Protection Act
$ \wedge $	195 Contract Product Liability 196 Franchise	Injury	Property Damage 385 Property Damage	Relations 740 Railway Labor Act	861 HIA (1395ff) 862 Black Lung (923)	490 Cable/Sat TV 850 Securities/Commodities/
Þ	····	362 Personal Injury - Medical Malpractice	Product Liability	751 Family and Medical Leave Act	863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g)) 864 SSID Title XVI	Exchange 890 Other Statutory Actions
	REAL PROPERTY 210 Land Condemnation	CIVIL RIGHTS  440 Other Civil Rights	PRISONER PETITION Habeas Corpus:	790 Other Labor Litigation 791 Employee Retirement	865 RSI (405(g))	891 Agricultural Acts 893 Environmental Matters
	220 Foreclosure	41 Voting	463 Alien Detainee	Income Security Act	FEDERAL TAX SUITS	895 Freedom of Information
	230 Rent Lease & Ejectment 240 Torts to Land	442 Employment	510 Motions to Vacate Sentence		870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant)	Act 896 Arbitration
	245 Tort Product Liability 290 All Other Real Property	Accommodations 445 Amer. w/Disabilities	530 General - 535 Death Penalty	IMMIGRATION	871 IRS—Third Party 26 USC 7609	899 Administrative Procedure Act/Review or Appeal of
		Employment	Other:	462 Naturalization Applicatio		Agency Decision
		446 Amer. w/Disabilities Other	550 Civil Rights	def of the definition Actions		950 Constitutionality of State Statutes
		448 Education	555 Prison Condition 560 Civil Detainee -			
/			Conditions of Confinement			
	V. ORIGIN (Place an "X" in One Box Only)  1 Original 2 Removed from 3 Remanded from 4 Reinstated or 5 Transferred from 6 Multidistrict 8 Multidistrict rocceeding State Court Appellate Court Reopened Another District Litigation - Litigation -					
	Cite the U.S. Civil Statute under which you are			(specif	<i>y)</i> Transfer	Direct File
	VI. CAUSE OF ACTION Brief description of cause:		(are not one just such that su			
	VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT: CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION UNDER RULE 23, F.R.Cv.P.			DEMAND \$	CHECK YES only  JURY DEMAND:	if demanded in complaint:
•	VIII. RELATED CASE(S)  IF ANY  (See instructions):  JUDGE					
	DATE	JOIXII.		DOCKET NUMBER		
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY						
	RECEIPT #A	MOUNT	APPLYING IFP	JUDGE	МАС. ЛЛ	DGE
		•				

Case 4:22-cv-10175-SDD-APP ECF No. 1, PageID.44 Filed 01/27/22 Page 44 of 44 PURSUANT TO LOCAL RULE 83.11 1. Is this a case that has been previously dismissed? If yes, give the following information: Case No.: \_\_\_\_\_\_ Judge: \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Other than stated above, are there any pending or previously ... discontinued or dismissed companion cases in this or any other court, including state court? (Companion cases are matters in which it appears substantially similar evidence will be offered or the same or related parties are present and the cases arise out of the same transaction or occurrence.) If yes, give the following information: Court: Case No.: Judge: \_\_\_\_\_ Notes: